REGISTER OF CLASSIFICATION DECISIONS

Date of entry in Register:	04 February 2004
Name of applicant/court:	New Zealand Customs Service
Applicant to the Labelling Body:	Not Applicable
Title of Publication:	Buttman Volume 4 No.3
Other Known Title(s):	Buttman Vol. 4 No.3
Director(s):	Not Applicable
Producer(s):	Not Applicable
Publisher:	E.A. Productions
Editor(s):	John Stagliano
Format:	Magazine
Country of Origin:	USA
Language(s):	English

Components of film originally examined: Not Applicable.

Feature: Running Time:

Trailers: Running Time:

Total Running Time:

Excision/Alteration: Not Applicable.

Reason(s) for Excision:

Not Applicable.

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Classification Decision:

Objectionable.

Display Conditions:

Not Applicable.

Descriptive Note:

Not Applicable.

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Direction to issue a label has been given on: Not Applicable.

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SUMMARY OF THE REASONS FOR DECISION:

The magazine *Buttman Volume 4 No.3* is classified as:
Objectionable.

The publication is a magazine devoted to explicit sexual depictions. The classification is due to the high extent and degree of material featuring degrading, dehumanising and demeaning sexual conduct and presentations of women. Both visual and textual material displays a pervasive emphasis on women's buttocks, genitals and anuses, and anal sexual activity. It includes numerous close-focus images of women’s splayed and gaping anuses following penetration. The presentation of highly degrading, dehumanising and demeaning sexual conduct in the photographic images, exaggerated cartoons, and in the text, is extensive. The result is a contrived spectacle of women offering themselves for anal penetration, presented for the sole purpose of male sexual arousal. The material reduces women to the status of objects for the sexual use and gratification of men. The overall effect of the magazine's constant visual and textual concentration on women's buttocks and anuses degrades, dehumanises and demeans women.

A classification of objectionable places a limit on the right to the freedom of expression as set out in s14 of the New Zealand Bill of Rights Act 1990. However, the right to freedom of expression must be weighed against the likelihood of injury to the public good. Given the high extent and degree of the degrading, dehumanising and demeaning presentations in the magazine the classification is considered a reasonable limit prescribed by law that can be demonstrably justified in a free and democratic society.

OFLC No: 300565